

## Kids Who Make a Difference



# Rain Forest Hero



Janine Licare has been protecting the rain forest around her Costa Rican home since she was 9 years old. To raise

money, Janine and a friend started selling hand-painted bottles and paperweights with rain forest themes. They put all the money into the organization they had created—Kids Saving the Rainforest (KSTR).

Skip ahead several years. Janine and the KSTR volunteers operate a gift store that makes \$30,000 a year selling artwork by kids and other local artists. With the money, they've already saved four acres from bulldozers and planted thousands of trees.

KSTR volunteers have installed 95 “monkey bridges” to keep endangered titi monkeys from getting electrocuted on power lines. KSTR also helps injured animals until they are well enough to be released back into the rain forest.

What's next on Janine's list? Building an educational center to teach visitors more about her rain forest home.

**Adapted from an article by Patricia Newman**

